

**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD
Virtual Meeting
January 25, 2021 - 6:15 PM**

Cumulative Attendance					
1/2021 through 1/2021					
	Members	Appt by	Attendance	Present	Absent
1	Elizabeth Adler, Chair	M	P	1	0
2	Muge Nurgun, Vice Chair	II	A	0	1
3	John Bonavita-Goldman	II	P	1	0
4	Kelly Charles	IV	P	1	0
5	Lawrence Clark	I	P	1	0
6	Owen Cylke	C	P	1	0
7	Whitney Dutton	IV	P	1	0
8	Carolann Mazza	III	P	1	0
9	Douglas Meade	I	P	1	0
10	Carol Tamburry	III	P	1	0
11	Susan Wood	M	P	1	0

Staff Present

Public Works Department

Stephanie Wilk, Sustainability Specialist, Staff Liaison

Kimberly Pearson, Sustainability Coordinator

Glen Hadwen, Sustainability Manager

Melissa Doyle, Program Manager - Solid Waste and Recycling

Dr. Nancy Gassman, Assistant Director Public Works – Sustainability

Estevan Baza, Sustainability Analyst

Guests Present

Benjamin Swanson, Waterway Advocates

Caleb Merendino, Waterway Advocates

Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Stephanie Wilk at 6:15 p.m. An announcement was made to explain the videoconferencing process. The roll was called, and a quorum was present.

Approval of the Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes for December 21, 2020 were introduced. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Ms. Tamburry and seconded by Mr. Bonavita-Goldman. The motion passed unanimously.

Staff Liaison Report

The Board went around to introduce themselves to the two new Board members, Kelly Charles and Whitney Dutton.

Ms. Wood shared that this is her last meeting as she has resigned from the Board. She shared that it has been a remarkable experience and a wonderful opportunity to work with the City of Fort Lauderdale. Ms. Wood added that she works on a newsletter called *Natural Awakenings* and said she would be happy to share any of the Boards success in the publication. In recognition for Ms. Wood's service, the Sustainability Division presented her with a plaque. Ms. Wood thanked staff and the Board, then departed the meeting because she had another commitment.

Presentations

Long Term Carbon Goals {Glen Hadwen, Sustainability Manager}

Mr. Hadwen shared that in response to the November presentation on the City's carbon footprint, the City Commission has asked staff to provide policy recommendations. Mr. Hadwen shared that historically, the City's carbon goal was based on the 2011 Sustainability Action Plan in which the City was to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) by 20% by 2020. The City is on target to reach that goal and it is largely attributed to Florida Power and Light's (FPL) reduction in GHG. He added that the City has slightly reduced vehicle fuel usage. Now that it is 2021, the SAP goals have expired, and the City needs to establish new short- and long-term goals for GHG emissions.

The Press Play 2024 Strategic Plan includes the following goals related to GHG:

- Goal 1: Build a sustainable and resilient community.
 - Objective: Ensure climate change resiliency and implement local and regional strategies to reduce our carbon footprint.
 - Objective: Promoted energy efficiency and the expansion of renewable energy sources.
- Goal 8: Build a leading government organization that managers all resources wisely and sustainably.
 - Objective: Integrate sustainability and resiliency into daily operations.

Mr. Hadwen share that the City's Comprehensive Plan includes the following evaluation measures specific to carbon footprint:

- Reduce GHG emissions from City operations by 80% by 2050,
- Source 20% of electricity from renewable energy by 2030; and
- Reduce City vehicle fossil fuel use by 20% below 205 levels by 2025

Policies shared in the Comprehensive Plan related to carbon footprint include:

- Consider GHG emissions in decision making,
- Encourage mixed-use and other land-use policies that will reduce vehicle miles; and
- Ensure multimodal options of transportation exist along key corridors

Mr. Hadwen added that staff have developed the following potential policy recommendations that align with the City's Comprehensive Plan:

- Achieve government operations net zero by 2040 and community net zero emissions by 2050
- Require sourcing of 20% of electricity from renewable energy by 2030 through actions that may include:
 - addition of solar with all roof replacements on existing facilities
 - requiring at least a 20% renewable energy contribution on all new facilities
 - purchases of renewable energy credits
- Achieve 10% reduction in electricity usage in City operations from 2020 to 2030 by investing in energy efficiency retrofits, energy management programs, and battery storage
- Achieve 50% of fleet as low emissions, electric and hybrid vehicles for all non-emergency vehicles with available alternative fuel models by 2030
- Incentivize mixed-use and other land-use policies that will reduce vehicle miles traveled through its land-use planning.
- Prioritize advocacy for and investment in multimodal transportation
- Adopting ordinances, policies, and programs to reduce emissions in the community such as requirements for:
 - Cool roof and cool hardscapes
 - solar ready buildings and electric charger ready parking
 - green building certification and/or features and
 - energy disclosure and efficiency upgrades

A question and answer segment ensued.

The full presentation is attached.

New Business

2021 SAB Schedule

Ms. Adler shared that she thought Mr. Cylke's suggestion of having a conversation about the relationship between insurance and climate change was a great idea. She asked if he had an update for the Board. Mr. Cylke said he had planned to speak with the Chairman of the FAIR Foundation which deals with insurance. He shared that the insurance industry is about assessing many kinds of risk including climate change related and he thought it would be interesting to explore the implications of sea level rise and hurricane on residential insurance rates and real estate values. Mr. Cylke added that he thought that sea level rise could have major impacts on real estate values and, consequently, City revenues. He suggested that the Chairman of FAIR present to the Board on the insurance industry's assessment of the risk of climate change impacts, their likely implications for rates and coverage, and the types of relationships they have with industry, homeowners, and the City. Mr. Cylke has a meeting with the Chairman of the FAIR Foundation this week and will report back to the Board at the next SAB meeting.

Ms. Wilk reminded the Board that they previously discussed changing the start time of the SAB meeting to 6:00 p.m. instead of 6:15 p.m. A motion was made by Mr. Clark and seconded by Mr. Bonavita-Goldman to change the start time of the SAB meeting to 6:00 p.m. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Guest Speaker – Benjamin Swanson and Caleb Merendino with Waterway Advocates

Benjamin Swanson introduced Caleb Merendino and himself. They are co-directors of Waterway Advocates, a non-profit organization based in Fort Lauderdale that works for clean and clear waterways. They host volunteer litter cleanups and many of those are in Fort Lauderdale along the intercoastal waterways, parks, neighborhoods, and beaches. Their organization was founded in April of 2020 and have since collected almost 20,000 pounds of litter. They encourage members of the community to report litter hot spots on their website at www.waterwayadvocates.org. Mr. Swanson said he is excited to get to work with the City and the SAB. They are currently working with the City to adopt streets and drains in Fort Lauderdale. They are also interested in getting a nature hub or sanctuary to start increasing pollination, natural areas, and educational opportunities within the community. In addition, to encouraging native plants and wildlife, this sanctuary would include specialty recycling bins to drop off items like cigarette butts, Styrofoam, and other items that are not traditionally recycled. Mr. Swanson added that they would like to launch an initiative to allow the community to pick up supplies for their own litter clean ups such as bags, gloves, and grabbers to encourage people to participate in litter cleanups on their own. They are hoping to make this site a National Wildlife Federation Wildlife Habitat and believe it could lead to a lot of community engagement and educational opportunity.

Old Business

Green Purchasing

Mr. Hadwen shared that he had a discussion with the Procurement Manager about opportunities for green procurement in the City and specifically avoiding purchasing single use items like plastics and Styrofoam. The Procurement Manager explained that those types of items are a small piece of what the City procures. The majority of what the City purchases are services such as construction. Mr. Hadwen shared his screen with the Board and reviewed the procurement contracts webpage (www.fortlauderdale.gov/departments/finance/procurement-services/contract-lists). Mr. Hadwen explained that the Sustainability Division is currently working on organizing a meeting with City staff who use Styrofoam to educate them on the ordinance and to assist in implementing its requirements.

Mr. Hadwen shared that office supplies are most likely the single use products most commonly purchased by the City. He added that in 2017 the Sustainability Division invited Office Depot to meet with the City's Green Team. Mr. Hadwen shared a graph that displayed the top 20 spending categories for purchases from Office Depot by the City. The number one product was paper and shortly after, the Sustainability Division hosted a campaign to reduce paper usage. The chart shows Office Depot's green ratings for products and that there are not a lot of disposable products on the City's purchase list. Mr. Hadwen added that it could be hard to track purchases because the City also has a purchase card (p-

card) system. Select staff have the ability to make purchases without going through the Procurement Department. He said that these types of disposable products are often purchased at the p-card level. Mr. Hadwen suggested that staff could ask Office Depot for an update. He added that the given the large variety of types of City contracts, it would be hard to draft a universal contract with the appropriate language.

Ms. Adler responded that she still believes it is worth the effort to start that process. She added that they should start setting the tone where appropriate as to where these vendors, consultants, and contractors can green their services. Ms. Hadwen added that some contracts may have to wait to incorporate new language until they are up for rebid or gets renewed. Ms. Adler asked if the Board could see if there are any contracts that are ending soon and if they can review them to see how they can incorporate language. Dr. Gassman added that staff can pull some language that the Sustainability Division has drafted in the past to support these contracts in trying to be more sustainable. She shared an example of a Parks and Recreation contract for a beverage provider for large events. There was also a request for purchase (RFP) for the Parks Master Plan Design and Implementation services and language that they put into a contract while trying to hire an architect for Fire Stations. Dr. Gassman offered to share that language with the Board. Dr. Gassman informed the Board that they could help encourage the City Commission to continue their support for more green practices as the City moves through with procurement.

Planning for Joint Meeting with Other Cities

Ms. Wilk explained that staff have not reached out to other cities yet. She advised that the Board come up with an agenda and identify who they would like to participate.

Mr. Cylke explained that he thought it would be beneficial to talk with two or three other sustainability boards and pose the following questions:

1. How effective have they been?
2. Are they doing things we haven't thought about?
3. How successful are they?
4. How do they operate?

He suggested a panel made up of each Chairman of each City's Board. Ms. Adler and Ms. Mazza agreed.

Mr. Dutton asked if it was allowable per Sunshine Law to meet with select members from other Boards. Ms. Adler replied that it was okay if it is publicly announced. Mr. Hadwen added that the other cities may have to post a public notice for their Boards as well. Dr. Gassman advised the Board to create an agenda and suggested two panels. One panel of City staff representatives and the other panel made up of Chairs of each Board. The meeting should be about two hours long and include a question and answer segment where a broader group can participate. Ms. Adler agreed and said she liked the idea of having presentations from staff and talking with other boards. Mr. Cylke added that it sounds like a major effort to organize and asked if staff could help. Mr. Hadwen stated that staff could assist if the Board sent a Communication to the City Commission requesting staff support, as the staff level of effort was

substantially over and above the typical SAB meeting. A similar request had been made and approved for the resiliency forum in January 2020.

Proposed Communications

None.

Comments

Ms. Charles asked if the Board has ever considered no fishing zones. Dr. Gassman responded that this has been discussed at the County level, but it is very difficult to implement. It would have to go to the State level as the City's jurisdiction does not expand past the high tide mark. Ms. Charles asked if the topic can be placed on the agenda to discuss with other cities. Ms. Adler said the Board can put it down as an idea as a discussion topic to engage other boards when they draft their agenda in February.

Items for Next Meeting

Presentation: *Renewable Energy Planning* {Jason Bocchinfuso, Sustainability Manager}

Old Business:

- Insurance Rates and Climate Change Speaker
- City Green Purchasing
- Joint Meeting with Other Cities Planning

Proposed Communications:

- Carbon Goals
- Staff Support Request for Joint Meeting with Other Cities

The Board agreed to invite the Waterway Advocates for a full presentation in their March meeting.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Ms. Mazza and seconded by Mr. Cylke to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.